Application Serial No.: 10/662,327 Attorney Docket No. 27688-003

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the Specification has been amended to correct minor typographical errors, and claims 1, 4, 5, 10, & 12 have been amended to correct minor typographical errors. Claims 1-16 remain pending.

Specification

In the Specification as filed, the term "connecting mechanism" is referenced at pg. 2 (first full paragraph of Summary), at pg. 3 (second full paragraph), and at pg. 5 (first full paragraph of Detailed Description).

At pg. 5, in the first full paragraph of the Detailed Description, the Specification recites: "Each friendship object (102, 104) may include one or more connecting mechanisms, generally designated 106" and "may include a first connection component 106a and a second connection component 106b." Applicants have amended the Specification to ensure that the recitations of "connecting mechanism" 106, and "first connection component" 106a and "second connection component" 106b as first defined are consistent throughout the remainder of the Specification.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the changes to the Specification described above do not constitute the addition of new matter. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner approve the changes to the Specification.

Claims

Claims 1, 4, 5, 10, & 12 have been amended such that "connector mechanism" now reads "connecting mechanism" so as to be consistent with the Specification.

Preliminary Amendment dated: March 24, 2004

Application Serial No.: 10/662,327 Attorney Docket No. 27688-003

CONCLUSION

Allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 24, 2004

By:

Bradford C. Blaise,

Registration No. 47,429

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